



Advocacy Group for the Environmentally Sensitive

Burlington
Dundas
Hamilton
Oakville
Waterdown

1102-258 Lisgar St.,
Ottawa. K2P 0C9

Hon Mr. Murray Elston,
Ministry of Health,
10th Floor, Hepburn Block,
80 Grosvenor St.,
Toronto.

Dear Mr. Elston,

Please help us. While doctors unfamiliar with our problem are arguing over us, treatment is being withheld, and patients have committed suicide.

We feel this has resulted from petty parochial politics within specialties of the OMA. Subsequently, we realize our health care has been adversely affected by the fact that it has been dependent on committees made up of people expert in fields other than our illness.

While what we feel has been an academic difference of opinion has resulted in us not getting proper health care, members of the OMA have publicly ridiculed people who have this illness, by suggesting it's all in our heads.

There are about ten to fifteen thousand of us who have this condition, and we find the attitude of the doctors exceedingly arrogant, particularly those who have contradicted our experience on the basis of book learning.

In the meantime people have died unnecessarily. Having very nearly committed suicide myself in the summer of 1985, I'm well aware of the crushing depression that can be caused by hypersensitivity, a point disputed by psychiatrists and others who, in the opinion of ten thousand of us, don't have a clue what they're talking about.

Doctors in this province have created an atmosphere of ridicule that has resulted in patient deaths. Two people in my experience have committed suicide from this disease, both of them because of the attitude perpetrated the OMA.

/...over

I can't emphasize enough how much damage the OMA has done.

As all people in this province are affected by the fact that health care decisions are so heavily influenced by doctors, we feel everyone would benefit from an inquiry into the OMA, to find out

1. why they have been unable to come to terms with the illness,
2. why they've contradicted the clinical experience of our doctors (and ourselves) on the basis of book learning,
3. why their members have humiliated us in the media, and
4. just how health care decisions in that inner sanctum of the OMA are made.

I hope you will agree to meet with us and review our concern. We will not release the names of anyone involved in the deaths to anyone but yourself, in person.

Thanks for you time, we can see how busy you are these days.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CB' or 'Chris Brown'.

Chris Brown
AGES (Ottawa Chapter)